

NSIA Remarks – DM Meeting February 14

- The national picture remains serious.
- **Some** Ports of Entry are still experiencing disturbances, though there are signs the remaining protesters may break up.
 - **Coutts: RCMP have advised lanes are open northbound and southbound. RCMP will assess situation overnight and POE could reopen this morning.**
 - **Emerson, MB remains blocked, but CBSA reduction in vehicles. Traffic volumes remain low.**
 - **Pacific Highway – RCMP executed operation plan last night. As of midnight (PT) RCMP advised that northbound and southbound were clear and open – small group of protesters remain on sidewalk. RCMP monitoring convoy expected to arrive from Prince George today.**
- Overall, social media continues to play an active role in the communication and organization of protesters across the country.
- Threat picture with respect to Ideologically Motivated Violent Extremism (IMVE) is evolving. Our definitions of who these protestors are and what is motivating them needs to be updated.
- CSIS assessments indicate that some IMVE actors may see federal government action as a reason to mobilize towards violence.
- RCMP is assisting in various impacted areas across the country and is focused on areas where enforcement or the risk of escalation is most acute.
- GiveSendGo fundraising site was hacked Sunday, with an alleged leak of donors to the “Freedom 2022” fundraiser.
- **Given saturation in information space around the protests in Ottawa, many international media outlets (including state media s.38) have continued to report on the issue in recent days.**
 - **Also continues to be significant engagement from American alternative media.**
- Media reporting of two CAF JTF2 members under investigation for allegedly taking part in the convoy protest has been trending on social media; reports of a Correctional Services Canada employee donating to the GiveSendGo from a government email has also attracted media attention.

Ottawa, ON:

- **Decreased number of protesters on streets since the weekend.**
- **OPS has approved a joint operational plan for Ottawa developed with support from RCMP and OPP and will be put into action in coming days.**
- **Late last night convoy released a statement that they have been informed of the presence of firearms in Ottawa.**
 - **Organizers noted the presence of the firearms “may [have been] be planted to discredit” the protest**
- **Mayor Watson** announced agreement with protest leader (Tamara Lich) that could lead to movement of trucks from residential areas.

- **Police liaison teams are negotiating with the demonstrators to determine who will be moving their vehicles** – some have now moved on to Wellington Street making towing more difficult.
- Given the anti-government sentiment of Ottawa group, along with the decentralized nature of its leadership, there is disagreement over the merit of these letters. Since these letters were released, agreement has been refuted.
- **Many vehicles remain throughout the downtown core.**

Windsor, ON (Ambassador Bridge):

- The Ambassador Bridge and POE reopened to commercial and traveler traffic on 13 Feb in the evening.
- **CBSA reports no delays.**
- **Over 40 people arrested in the blockade.**

Emerson, MB:

- As of 14 Feb, the blockade remains north of the POE. Some traveler traffic is able to enter Canada but commercial and other traffic is rerouted to adjacent POEs. RCMP will continue letting livestock vehicles through.

Coutts (Port of Entry):

- All services have been temporarily suspended at Coutts POE as protesters continue to block the highway leading to the POE. Commercial and traveler traffic is crossing at nearby POEs. 11 arrests and large weapons cache seized
- NOTAMs are in effect over Milk River and Coutts until 23 Feb which speaks to the potential for violence and measured police response

Pacific Highway, PAC

- **As of 1900 ET 14 Feb, region reports all is very quiet with approximately 20-30 protestors mingling at 3 tents and a line of cars.**

Maritime/CCG:

- **As of 14 Feb, risk levels continue to be assessed as very low for protests on the water and disruption to marine traffic and port activities.**

IMVE:

- Individuals seeking to participate in a legitimate protest are distinct from actors espousing violent extremism. There is a mix of these people entrenched in Ottawa
- The most likely IMVE-related scenario involves an individual or small group using readily available weapons and resources such as knives, firearms, homemade explosives and vehicles in public areas against soft targets, including opposition groups or members of the general public. As noted in Coutts, firearms have been stockpiled
- The increase in violent online rhetoric targeting uniformed personnel is likely not indicative of increased intent by IMVE actors to conduct planned, directed attacks against members of

law enforcement. Uniformed personnel are more likely to be targeted because of their accessibility in the course of their duties. The terrorism threat to uniformed personnel remains MEDIUM.

- IMVE adherents may feel empowered by the level of disorder resulting from the protests. This could lead to individuals vulnerable to extremist messaging to commit isolated acts of violence.

Foreign Interference:

- RRM Canada has not observed any significant indicators of foreign state-linked interference as it relates to the "Truckers Convoy".
- Similar demonstrations have emerged across various democratic states inspired by the Ottawa demonstrations with indications of more planned in places like the US, today (Super Bowl) and in the weeks to come.
- RRM Canada notes that a significant proportion of content and engagement online has been driven by organic activity by average users and citizens.

Financing:

- No spike in suspicious transaction reporting amid trucker convoy protests: FINTRAC.
- TD Bank froze some accounts that received money for Canada protests.
- **GiveSendGo was hacked and donor info was exposed. According to civil society organisation and external experts, indications are that a significant proportion of funders originate from outside of Canada and principally from the US. We cannot verify this information independently, but are monitoring the discourse around this issue for potential exploitation and amplification.**